

What is claimed is:

1. A Virtual Private Network (VPN) communication method employed for a security gateway apparatus connecting between a local area network (LAN) and a wide area network (WAN) including a public network, the communication
5 method comprising the steps of:

a) adding a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) communication option to an Internet Key Exchange (IKE) data, when establishing an IKE communication with a terminal outside the LAN having a dialup connection with the WAN;

10 b) distributing an IP address to the terminal outside the LAN during the IKE communication; and

c) establishing a Security Architecture for the Internet Protocol (IPsec) communication that follows the IKE communication,

wherein the gateway apparatus designates an IP address for the outside
15 terminal from a tunneled IP packet.

2. The VPN communication method employed for the security gateway apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein an IP address and a subnet mask address, which have same segments as those of the LAN, are distributed to the
20 outside terminal, thereby the outside terminal can be virtually regarded as a terminal on the LAN.

3. The VPN communication method for the security gateway apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the outside terminal is provided, during the IKE
25 communication, with a private IP address that is used on the LAN, in a case that the LAN is configured with private IP addresses, whereby the outside terminal is allowed to access to a terminal on the LAN.

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 4. The VPN communication method for the security gateway apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 3, wherein an encryption key and an authentication key are exchanged with a public key cryptosystem during the
 5 IKE communication.

5. The VPN communication method for the security gateway apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 3, wherein the DHCP communication option contains an IP address and a subnet mask.

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6. A security gateway apparatus connecting between a local area network (LAN) and a wide area network (WAN) including a public network, the apparatus comprising:

a) a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) option adding
 15 section adding a DHCP communication option to an IKE data when establishing an IKE communication with a terminal outside the LAN having a dialup connection with the WAN;

b) an IP address distribution section distributing an IP address to the outside terminal during the IKE communication; and

20 c) an IPsec communication section performing an IPsec communication that follows the IKE communication,

wherein, the gateway apparatus designates an IP address for the outside terminal from a tunneled IP packet.

25 7. The security gateway apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein an IP address and a subnet mask address, which have same segments as those of the LAN, are distributed to the outside terminal, thereby the outside terminal can

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be virtually regarded as a terminal on the LAN.

8. The security gateway apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein the outside terminal is provided, during the IKE communication, with a private IP address which is the same as one used on the LAN in a case that the LAN is configured with private IP addresses, whereby the outside terminal is allowed to access to a terminal on the LAN.

9. The security gateway apparatus according to any one of claims 6 through 8, wherein an encryption key and an authentication key are exchanged with a public key cryptosystem during the IKE communication.

10. The security gateway apparatus according to any one of claims 6 through 8, wherein the DHCP communication option contains an IP address and a subnet mask.